



Minnesota's 4th District **E-Report!**

Congresswoman Betty McCollum

"Serving Minnesota's Families"



JULY 18, 2003

Hot News!

Peace Corps Funding Authorized

This week the House approved H.R. 1950, legislation to fund the State Department through 2005. The legislation included a provision based on separate legislation offered by Rep. Betty McCollum that would increase funding to double the number of Peace Corps Volunteers.

"This is a huge victory for Americans and those that they will serve around the world," McCollum said of the increased funding. "The president made a plea to Congress and to our country. I am proud I was able to play an active role in moving this important piece of legislation forward. I urge all Members of Congress to stand behind this commitment."

The Peace Corps provision was modeled after H.Con. Res. 61, legislation authored by McCollum to double the Peace Corps participants and funding by 2007. The legislation directs the State Department to double the program's enrollment from 6,678 in 2002 to 14,000 by 2007. The program's funding would increase from \$278 million in 2002 to \$499.4 million by 2007 and would provide quality recruitment and ensure adequate health care and security of the volunteers.

Delay on Head Start

H.R. 2210, the GOP sponsored Head Start Authorization Act, was scheduled for consideration before the House today. Republican leaders, fearing failure of the measure, denied debate of the legislation today.

"President Bush and Republican leaders in Congress do not have enough support in their own party to pass this legislation. This sends a clear message that this is not a good plan for our children," McCollum said of the bill.

The bill has been rescheduled for debate next week.



Erika Doerr (left), a native of Shoreview and Mary Pantsari (right of McCollum), a native of North Oaks are traveling to Germany as part of the Congress-Bundestag Exchange Program, a work-study program with a focus on cultural exchange. Ela Vijowska (far right) of the student exchange program AFS, accompanied the students.

McCollum Holds Rx Drug Town Hall Meeting

On **Monday, July 21 at 10:30am**, Rep. Betty McCollum will convene a special town hall meeting about landmark Medicare legislation being considered in Washington. McCollum is inviting the public to find out more about how the Medicare prescription drug benefit will impact families in Minnesota.

WHO: Rep. Betty McCollum, health professionals, senior citizens, AARP, Senior Federation representatives

WHAT: Town Hall Meeting on Medicare Legislation

WHEN: Monday, July 21 at 10:30am

WHERE: State Office Building, Room 200

This event is open to the public and those interested are encouraged to attend.

Contact Congresswoman Betty McCollum . . . www.house.gov/mccollum/contact.html

Washington Office: 1029 Longworth HOB, Washington, DC 20515 ♦ phone / (202) 225-6631 ♦ fax / (202) 225-1968

St. Paul Office: 165 Western Ave. N., #17, St. Paul, MN 55102 ♦ phone / (651) 224-9191 ♦ fax / (651) 224-3056